

NEWS

From the Office of

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Supervisors to Consider Ordinance Barring Sex Offenders from Ice Cream Trucks

SAN BERNARDINO – The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday will consider an ordinance proposed by First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt that would prevent sex offenders from obtaining a business license to operate an ice cream truck. Supervisor Mitzelfelt proposed drafting the ordinance recently in coordination with a bill proposed in the State Legislature by Assemblyman Paul Cook (R-Yucca Valley).

“Parents have enough to worry about concerning the safety of their kids – wondering if the person driving the neighborhood ice cream truck is a sex offender shouldn’t be one of them,” said Supervisor Mitzelfelt. “Once adopted, our ordinance will help to ensure that doesn’t happen.”

Assemblyman Cook earlier this year introduced Assembly Bill 2169, which would have prohibited cities and counties from issuing a business license to operate an ice cream truck to registered sex offenders. That bill has since stalled in the Assembly, but the County ordinance proposed by Mitzelfelt would enact such a prohibition in San Bernardino County in spite of the bill not passing.

Assemblyman Cook proposed his bill after parents in a Riverside County neighborhood found out their local ice cream truck driver was a registered sex offender. The parents were alarmed to find out, after reporting the incident to police, that it was not against the law for the man to operate the truck. Several other incidents of sex offenders operating ice cream trucks have been reported in other communities in recent months.

There are more than 250 ice cream trucks operating in San Bernardino County.